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THE
PLOTTER

CLACKAMAS COUNTY AREA T/S
USERS GROUP
NEWSLETTER

***

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 5

*****

EDITED BY: Rod Gowen
CHAIRMAN: Rick Read
SEC/TREAS.:   Rod Gowen
PR OFFICER: Bob Evans
LIBRARIAN: Laura Gowen

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MEETINGS

Our last meeting was held on
Friday, April 13, 1984. The
meeting was called to order at
7:30 PM. The Sec/Treas. report
was asked for and given. We then
went on to old business. The
first item was Advertising in
the newsletter. After a bit of
discussion, the group voted to
accept PAID advertising in this
publication on a limited basis.
There was a proposal for the
addition of two (2) new SYNTAX
subscriptions as soon as we can
set up new addressees. Proposed
subscriptions to T/S Horizons
and Sinclair Computing (from
England) were tabled for further
discussion at the next meeting.
The meeting was adjourned at
8:00 PM. We then had a 30 minute
question and answer session. At
about 8:30 PM, we broke up to
see what was brought by memmbers
to demonstrate.

Be sure and attend the next
meeting. You never know what you
might miss.

The next meeting will be held:

    on: Friday, May 11, 1984
    at: 7:00 P. M.
    in: Room 101, Randall Hall
        CCC

Be sure and attend. Bring a
friend.>>>>>>*

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COMPUTING THE FUTURE--
IN CLACKAMAS COUNTY
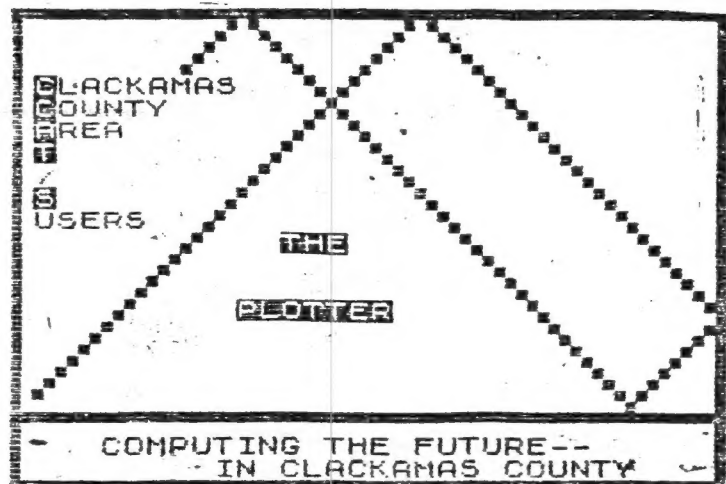
BITS and BYTES

As we have had a limited amount
of news come accross our desk
this month, we thought that you
might like to read some good(?)
news. (Reprinted from Basic
Computer Newsletter)

WORRY NOT

ALTHOUGH IT IS NOW OBVIOUS THAT
BOTH SYNC AND TIMEX SINCLAIR
USER MAGAZINES HAVE STOPPED PUB-
LISHING, FEAR NOT.

MY RESEARCH HAS BROUGHT FORTH
MANY POINTS OF INFORMATION. FOR
ONE, AN ENORMOUS PHONE BILL.
THE OTHERS HOWEVER, ARE OF MORE
CONCERN TO OUR READERS.

PRIMARILY SPEAKING BASIC IS NOT
THE ONLY INTERESTED PARTY IN
SUPPORTING THE SINCLAIR FAMILY.
SO AS TO FULLY EXLPAIN, ALLOW ME
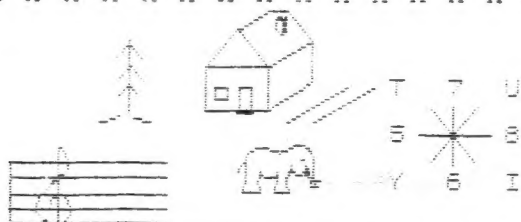TO EXPAND THIS POINT TO THE MAX.

I HAVE JUST CONCLUDED A RATHER
INFORMATIVE CONVERSATION WITH
MR. DAVE HIGGINBOTTOM OF TRINITY
MAGNUM, CALIFORNIA. DURING OUR
CONVERSATION WE HAD EXCHANGED
FACTS OF MUTUAL INTEREST TO ALL
CONCERNED WITH WHAT THE FUTURE
HAS IN STORE FOR THE SINCLAIR
COMPUTER LINE. MY REASONS FOR
BRINGING   MR.   HIGGINBOTTOM TO
YOUR ATTENTION WILL SHORTLY UN-
FOLD.

HOWEVER, GETTING BACK TO SPECIF-
ICS IT IS UNDERSTANDABLE THAT
DUE TO MARKETING "PROBLEMS"
TIMEX HAS RECOGNIZED THAT IT
MUST COMPLETLY SEVER ITS NAME
FROM COMPUTERS. NEVERTHELESS,
THIS BEING A PROVERBIAL PARADOX
OF SITUATIONS IT DOES NOT MEAN
THE END FOR THE SINCLAIR PRODIGY.

cont.>

****

< = TRY THESE WITH YOUR 2068<<

TO ILLUSTRATE, IT IS UNDERSTOOD
THAT TIMEX HOLDS THE PATENT AND
MANUFACTURING RIGHTS IN THIS
COUNTRY FOR THE "MINI-MARVEL"
COMPUTERS. THIS BEING TRUE, ONE
CAN EASILY COMPREHEND WHY TIMEX
SHOULD NOT OBJECT TO CONTINUE
MANUFACTURING COMPUTERS FOR AN
UNRELATED PUBLIC COMPANY THAT IS
FINANCIALLY STABLE AND AGREEABLE
TO MARKET UNDER ITS OWN NAME.

NOW THIS IS WHERE MR. DAVE
HIGGENBOTTOM AND MYSELF BE-
CAME AQUAINTED. CONSIDERING
BRINGING A GROUP OF INVESTORS
TOGETHER FOR THE ABOVE MENTIONED
I DISCOVERED THAT DAVE HAD
ALREADY PIONEERED THE CAUSE. AND
IF I MAY SAY SO, AFTER SPEAKING
WITH THE GENTLEMAN, IN MY OPI-
NION, HE IS PROFESSIONALLY QUAL-
IFIED TO CONVENE THE NECESSARY
INGREDIENTS.

INCIDENTALLY, MR. HIGGENBOTTOMS
PHONE NO. IS (213) 864-7068. IM
SURE HE WOULD NOT MIND RECEIVING
CALLS FROM INTERESTED CONTRIB-
UTING PARTIES.

CONSEQUENTLY, WHAT DOES THE
FUTURE HAVE TO OFFER? BE PRE-
PARED FOR A NEW LINE OF 1000*S,
1500*S, SPECTRUM 2068 AND THE
QL "ULTIMATE COMPUTER" SOON TO
BE ON THE SHELVES OF LOCAL
RETAIL OUTLETS THROUGHOUT THE
COUNTRY.

IN CONCLUSION, BASIC COMPUTER
PROGRAMS WILL CONTINUE TO GIVE
YOU THE SOFTWARE SUPPORT THAT
YOU NEED.

IF YOU ENJOY OUR PUBLICATION
WHY NOT TAKE A MOMENT TO WRITE
A FEW LINES AND SEND THEM TO MY
ATTENTION. I WOULD APPRECIATE
HEARING FROM YOU.

YOURS FOR BETTER BASIC,

RONALD W. DESIND

DEAR READERS,

PLEASE REVIEW THE FOLLOWING
LETTER SENT IN BY MR. BANEY.
JOHN, YOUR SUGGESTIONS ARE
EXCELLENT. MY ONLY HOPE IS TO
SEE A POSITIVE RESPONSE FROM
OTHERS...

tor
.c Comouter Newsletter
amson & Butter Building
5 Biscayne Boulevard
~i, Florida 33137

= Ed,

    Just a few suggestions on what articles I would like to
in your newsletter.

    It seems I live in a very remote area with not many TS
·rs around to confer with and I have had to work out all
~y programing problems without any help.

    I believe a short exchange column with inputs from your
·ders would be great. Maybe small routines that would be
·ful to others in writing programs. Here is an example of
~ routine that I worked out for some of my programs to line
columns of numbers neatly.

```
10 Print "Input Any Number"
20 Input A
30 Print Tab 26-LEN STR$ A;A
40 GOTO 20
```

Input any integer number.

    Also in the exchange column it would be nice to hear
about experiences that other users have had with hardware
software. My best experience is with my purchase of the
Suntronics Keyboard. I received it within eight days from
order and it only took me about half an hour to hook-up(20
minutes to find a screwdriver). It has made entering programs
so easy that I don't mind typing long ones in now.

    Keep up the good work and I wish you the best for the
future.

                              Respectfully,

                              John P. Baney

        * LETS PARTICIPATE FOLKS *

SEND TO:

                READER EXCHANGE
        BASIC COMPUTER PROGRAMS
        3705 BISCAYNE BOULEVARD
        MIAMI, FLORIDA 33137

HARDWARE REVIEW

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BYTE-BACK

MODEM

by

Rod Gowen

*****

ITEM: Byte-Back Modems (2 models)
PRICE: $149.95+shipping
        Discounts Avail.
FROM: RMG Enterprises
        655-7484
MEMORY: 2K or more

After waiting for the T/S Modem
for a long while, I was really
disappointed when Timex quit at
the very time when the modem was
to be released. I then turned to
Byte-Back to get a modem. They
have been available for some
time as the Model MD-2. They now
have 2 models available, the new
improved MD-2B and the MD-68 for
the 2068 computer. They come two
ways, wired and tested or as a
kit. You cann save about $20 if
you are handy and enjoy working
on kits. The modems all come
with ICOMM, the software to run
the operation of the unit. There
is also a "Smart" Software pack-
age available as an option. The
unit also has an RS232 port in-
side that will allow you to use
many serial peripherals. As it
comes, it is compatible with
the Timex and most Parallell
printers. The new models can
answer or originate transmis-
sions.

2

I hooked up my MD-2B to my ZX81 computer and started to try to get online with CompuServe. The first and by far the most important thing to do is to READ THE MANUALS. Having done so, I had very few problems with the unit.

The unit's software is menu driven, as are all of the services that you might hook up to. That makes things a lot simpler. With the Modem you will receive a Compuserve Demo Pack, which will get you online and let you become familiar with the operations of your Modem. There are also about 8 or 10 local Bulletin Boards or BBS in the Portland area that you can get on and read ads, news, letters and even the top ten video games or records and albums (KGON BBS). It is fun and interesting. In fact, it can become addictive. It almost made this newsletter late.

The menu allows you to send or receive text or programs, store text as REM statements and then to copy it, save it or send it to another computeer. Very thorough and user friendly program.

I can recommend this unit VERY highly. I am going to try the "Smart" software. I may report on that at a later date.

TRY ONE--you'll like it!!!

✳✳✳✳✳✳✳✳✳✳✳✳✳✳✳✳✳✳

Use the POWER within your reach!

✳✳✳✳✳✳✳✳✳✳✳✳✳✳✳✳✳✳

ZX/TS
P and R

================

Here is a small routine for you to type into your 2068. After it is in, run it and then explain it.

(Make sure that the printer is on.)

```
10 PRINT #1;"lower";#2;"upper"
;#3;"        PRESS ENTER";,,,,,,P
AUSE 0
20 FOR k=1 TO 10
30 PRINT k: NEXT k
```

This time our 1000 program comes to us all the way from North Dakota. From Tad Hendrickson, 14 years old. I have been sending a newsletter since I gave him a computer for Christmas. After a couple of months he sent in this program. Not bad for his age and the time on the unit AND with no one to advise or help.

```
  1 REM "CHASE"
 10 CLS
 15 LET N=0
 20 LET A=15
 25 LET B=16      :
 30 LET S=0
 35 LET C=INT (RND*30)+1
 40 LET D=INT (RND*20)+1
 45 LET B$=INKEY$
 50 PRINT AT A,B; CHR$ 133
 55 PRINT AT D,C; CHR$ 6
 60 LET N=N+1
 65 IF N=500 THEN GOTO 200
 70 PRINT AT A,B;"
 75 IF B$="5" THEN LET B=B-1
 80 IF B$="8" THEN LET B=B+1
 85 IF B$="6" THEN LET A=A+1
 90 IF B$="7" THEN LET A=A-1
 95 IF B$="0" AND A=D AND B=C
THEN GOTO 500
 97 IF B$="0" THEN PRINT AT D,
C;"X"
100 PRINT AT D,C;"  "
105 IF C=30 THEN GOTO 35
110 LET C=C+1
115 GOTO 45
200 PRINT AT 10,14;"SCORE IS=
";S
210 STOP
500 S=S+1
510 PRINT AT D,C;"X"
520 PRINT AT D,C;" "
530 GOTO 35
```

use the arrow keys to move.

The object of the game is to score by having your guy (chrs 6) and the computer (chrs 133) be at the same place so that they are one on top of the other and press 0 to fire. Movements are done with 5, 6, 7, 8, the arrows above tell which directions you move. There is a time limit on it and when the time is up it will show you your score.

2068

Our 2068 program comes again from Roger Valentine's book, The Timex Sinclair 2068. It is quite short, but it shows how to use the OVER command.

If you want to create an odd shaped character for some reason there is a very easy way to do so without all that USR CHR$ 144 business. Just use the EXCLUSIVE OR aspect of the expression OVER 1 to print one character on top of another, obliterating all points where the two characters meet.

This program allows you to enter
any two character. Line 50 will
show you the two characters plus
the strange EXCLUSIVE OR char-
acter created by the OVER 1.
Useful, eh? In fact, you will be
suprised how easy it is to
create some interesting "invad-
er" type characters by using
this method.

OVERS 1

```
   10 PRINT "EXPERIMENTS WITH
OVER"
   20 INPUT "Enter any 2 charact-
ers (space to STOP)";&$
   30 IF &$=CHR$ 32 THEN STOP
   40 IF LEN &$<> 2 THEN GO TO 20

   50 PRINT &$(1);CHR$ 8; OVER 1;
;&$();" = ";&$(1);" OVER ";&$(2)
   60 GO TO 20
```

* * * * * * * * * * * * * *

BOOK
REVIEW

by

Dixie Fortune

TITLE: LEARNING TIMEX/SINCLAIR
        BASIC
AUTHOR: David A. Lien
PRICE: ?

As I am at the very bottom of
knowing how to use my TS 1000,
I needed a book that was willing
and able to aid me, no matter
what time of the day (or night)
I might need help.

This one is the best I've found.
It is great for the very begin-
ner, as it is written in simple
language and even has some
humor. It tells you how to SAVE
a program on tape and how to
LOAD it.

At the back of the book their
are answers to questions and
programs to run.

# # # # # # # # # # # # # # # # #

NOW HEAR
THIS

- - - - - - - -

NOW HEAR THIS

Dick Wagner

For 2068 users who suffer hear-
ing loss and find the "click" of
the keyboard inadequate, try
POKE 23609,100. If you don't
want any sound, POKE 23609,0.

# #

%/%/%/%/%/%/%/%/%/%/%/%/%/

WHOA!!

Dick Wagner

Does your 2068 start to repeat
before you're ready? Try POKE-
ing a new number into address
23561. It is set at 35 on power
up. A larger number will cause a
longer delay before repeat
begins.

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

SOFTWARE
REVIEW

- - - - - - - - - - - -

by

Rod Gowen

TITLE: TIMEGATE
FROM: QUICKSILVA
MEMORY: 48K (2068)
COST: $24.95

When I received this piece of
software in the mail I knew that
if they put out a program as
good as the package that it came
in, I was in for a real
treat. Well, they didn't let me
down.

This is one of the finest games
that I have seen in a long
while. I was, as I said, very
impressed with the plastic book-
type container (printed in full
color) and the card inside. When
I watched the program LOADing, I
was again impressed with the
graphics. The first side of the
tape loads the instruction
manual, and when you are finish-
ed with them, the program tells
you to turn the tape over and
load the main game.

Once the program is running, the
three-dimensional space effects
as well as the sound effects
make you feel as though you are
really in a space ship and are
making ""jumps" through time and
space. The computer produces a
throbbing, rumbling effect that
vibrates the table. You can
almost "feel" the ship moving.
Couple that with the stars rush-
ing toward you on the view-
screen and you have some
super game playing ahead. It
will work with the keyboard or
with a joystick. Time to play?
That depends on how good you are
at eluding the "SQUARM".

After this one I can hardly wait
to try more of this superior
software. It comes from QUICK-
SILVA, The Game Lords Of Britain
who make software for the 1000
and the 2068. Lets support any
and all suppliers who can put
out quality and reasonably
priced merchandise. We need more
of them, don't you think?

T/S HELPLINE

WE'RE BACK!!
As promised. We certainly hopr
that you missed us.

We have not received many calls
on the HELPLINE, but then again,
we hope that the lack of calls
means that all of you are doing
just fine and do not need any
help. I really hope that it is
not a general lack of interest
in the newsletter as a whole.
That would be TERRIBLE. I can
think of no faster way to kill
a newsletter, newspaper or group
than to have it become infected
with that dreaded disease,

APATHY.

Had a couple of people ask how
to make 2068 programs that start
as soon as they are loaded. The
answer to that one is simple,
but bears repeating. Simply add
this line to your program:

9999 SAVE "program name" LINE 0

As simple as it may sound, some
have had trouble BREAKing an
autorun BASIC program on the
2068. On this machine you must
remember to press both the BREAK
and the CAPS SHIFT at the same
time. That will usually do the
job unless the program is using
a protect routine.

ANY PROBLEMS? QUESTIONS?
Desires?

Just ask, WE WANT TO HELP!!!!
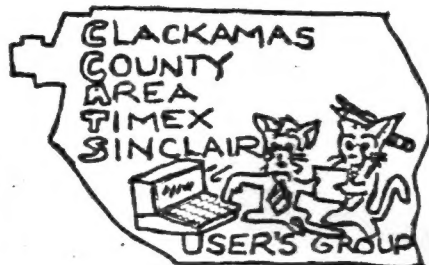
CCAT/S BBS
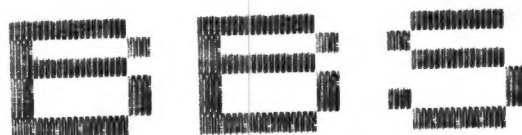
CCAT/S BULLETIN BOARD SERVICE

THIS IS YOUR SPACE!

FREE!!

IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO
TRADE, A SMALL BIT OF
GENERAL INTEREST INFORM-
ATION TO SHARE, OR SHORT
ANNOUNCEMENT TO MAKE,
THIS IS THE PLACE.

YOU MAY SUBMIT ANY ITEM
IN THE ABOVE CATAGORIES
UP TO 6 LINES OF 32
SPACES EACH AT NO CHARGE.

==========================

SUBMIT IN CLEAR PRINTING
OR TYPING TO:

CCAT/S
1419   1/2 7th STREET
OREGON CITY, OR 97045

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK-

Well, another month has gone by
and we don't know where it went.
We received a lot of nice re-
marks regarding our new format.
We hope the rest of our readers
like it also.

As you can see by the reprinted
article from BASIC COMPUTER
PROGRAMS, there seems to be a
few good people out there who DO
care what happens to a well de-
signed and quality built piece
of equipment. I'm talking about
our friendly TIMEX COMPUTERS. I,
for one, sincerely hope that Mr
Higginbottom gets all the sup-
port that he needs. As the wri-
ter says, we all need to get our
pens, typewriters or wordproc-
essors out and let people know
where you stand. If we, as a
group, can make our collective
voices heard, we CAN get things
that we need and want.

What do you say? Lets all write.
And continue to do so until we
are sure that we have been
heard. Make sure our voice is
heard.

TILL NEXT TIME THEN--

KEEP ON

PEEKing and POKEing>>>>***

CLACKAMAS
COUNTY
AREA
TIMEX
SINCLAIR
USER'S GROUP

5

$ $ $ $ $ $ $ $ $ $ $ $ $ $

CLASSIFIED
ADS

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THIS

IS

THE

PLACE!

If you have something to sell,
something that you want to buy,
or wish to commission a special
program, this is the place to
let others know.

The rate for our classified ads
is $.50 per 32 character line
per issue, payable in advance.
Our publication date is the
first of each month and the
deadline for ad copy is the 15th
of the month preceding the issue
in which you wish the ad to ap-
pear.

Mail all ad copy to:

    CCAT/S
    1419 1/2 7th Street
    Oregon City, OR 97045

Make checks payable to:

    Rod Gowen or
    CCAT/S

Let people know what you have or
need!

$ $ $ $ $ $ $ $ $ $ $ $ $ $

JUST WATCH US GROW!! We have
been growing by about 8% per
seen this growth slowing. We
will be printing an up to date
membership list to be sent out
with our JUNE newsletter. WATCH
FOR IT AND WATCH US GROW!!!

△ △ △ △ △ △ △ △ △ △ △ △ △ △ △

CCAT/S
1419 1/2 7th STREET
Oregon City,   OR   97045

PORTLAND, OR
MAY 4
PM
1984

USA
20c

*JACK ARMSTRONG
951 WINDEMERE DRIVE N.W.
              OR   97304
SALEM,